

FRACTURED FAIRY TALES

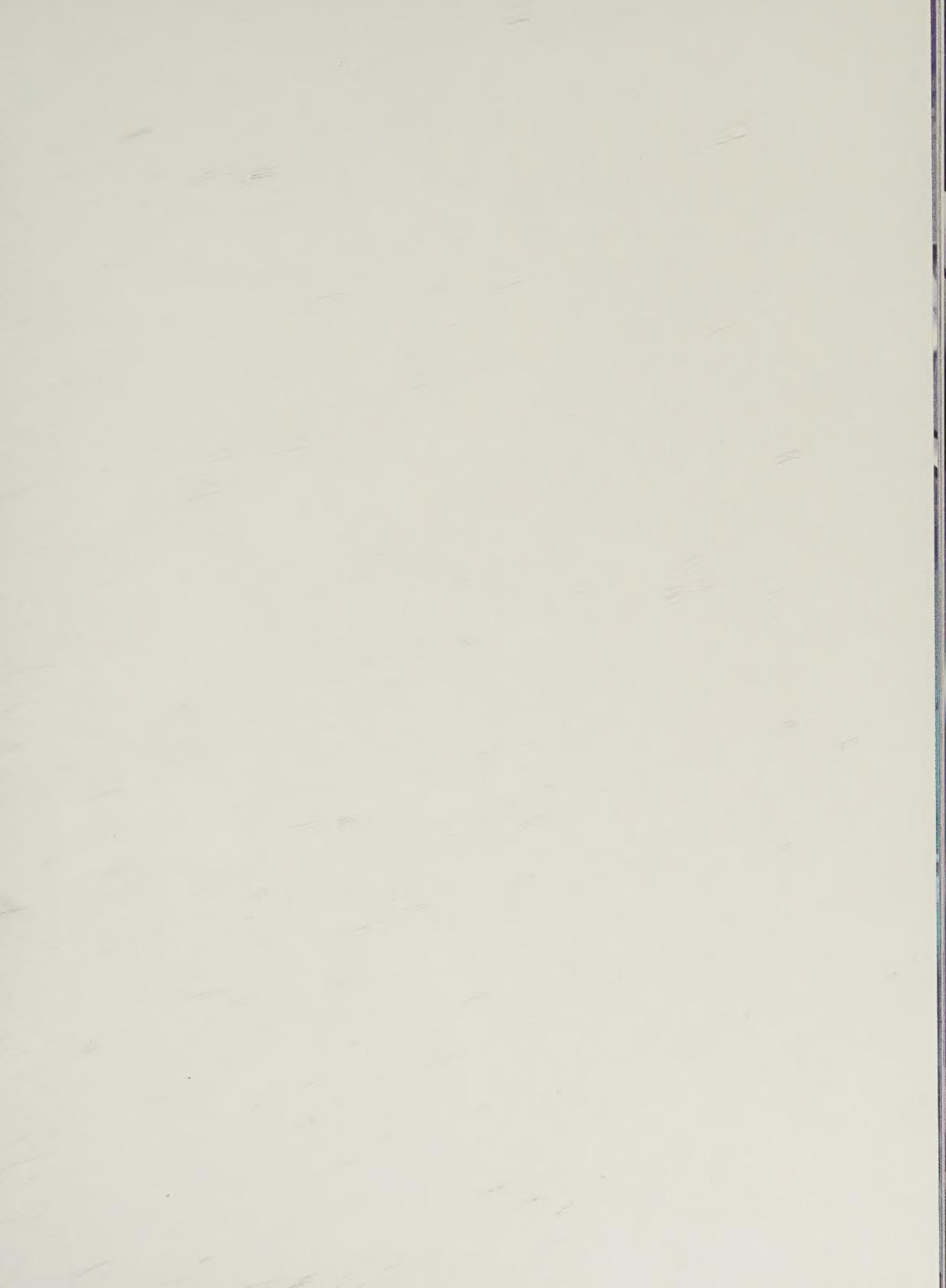
THE LITTLE MERMAID'S SONG



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FRACTURED FAIRY TALES

THE LITTLE MERMAID'S SONG



Graphic Planet

An Imprint of Magic Wagon
abdobooks.com

**THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED TO THE GASHLER FAMILY: MIKE, DESIRE,
JAMIE, TALIA, AND EVAN!
LOVE IS LOVE. -AM**

**TO MY SON HEITOR, WHO LOVES WHAT I DO. AND TO MY WIFE JO, WHO
WAS WITH ME UNTIL LATE AT NIGHT WHILE I ILLUSTRATED THIS BOOK.
LOVE YOU GUYS. -LA**

abdobooks.com

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THIS BOOK CONTAINS
RECYCLED MATERIALS

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Once Upon
A Time...

My name is
Marilla. It means
"shining sea."

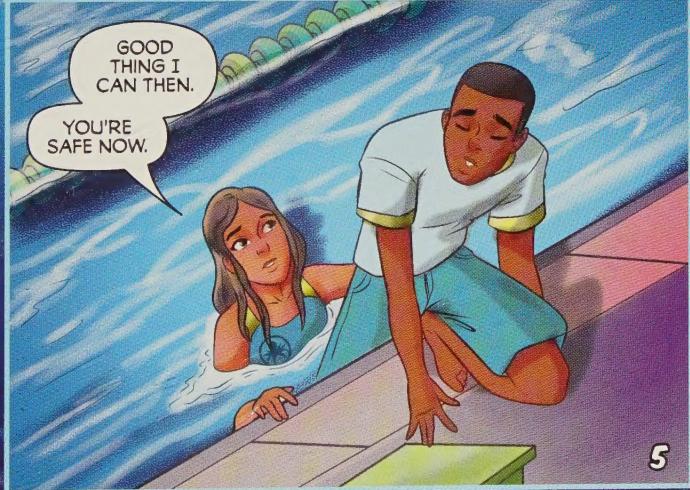
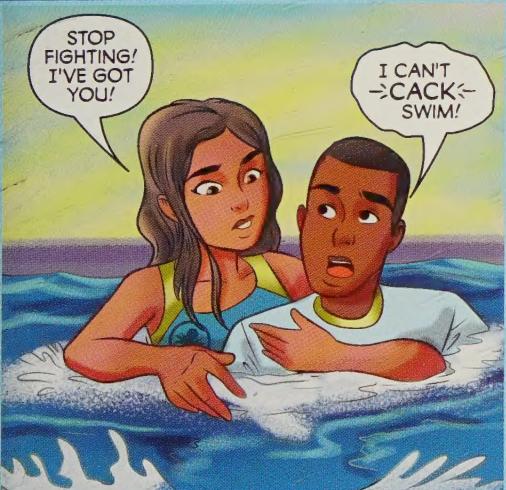
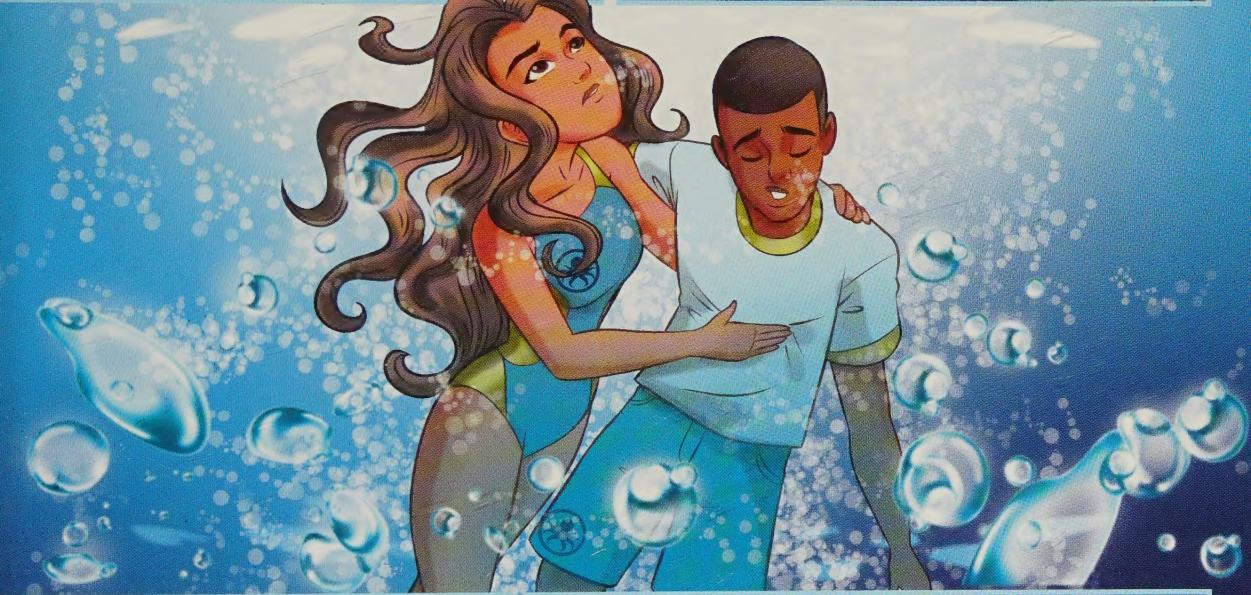
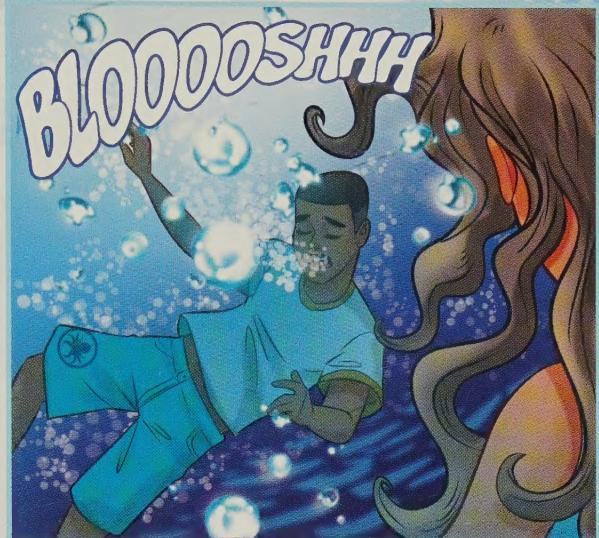
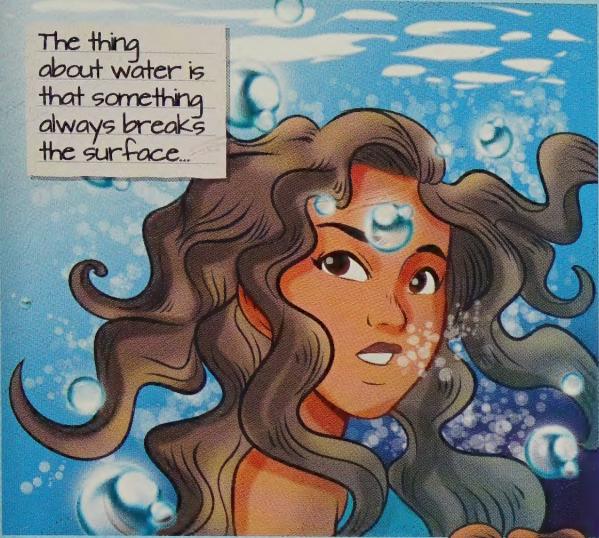
The water
is my home.

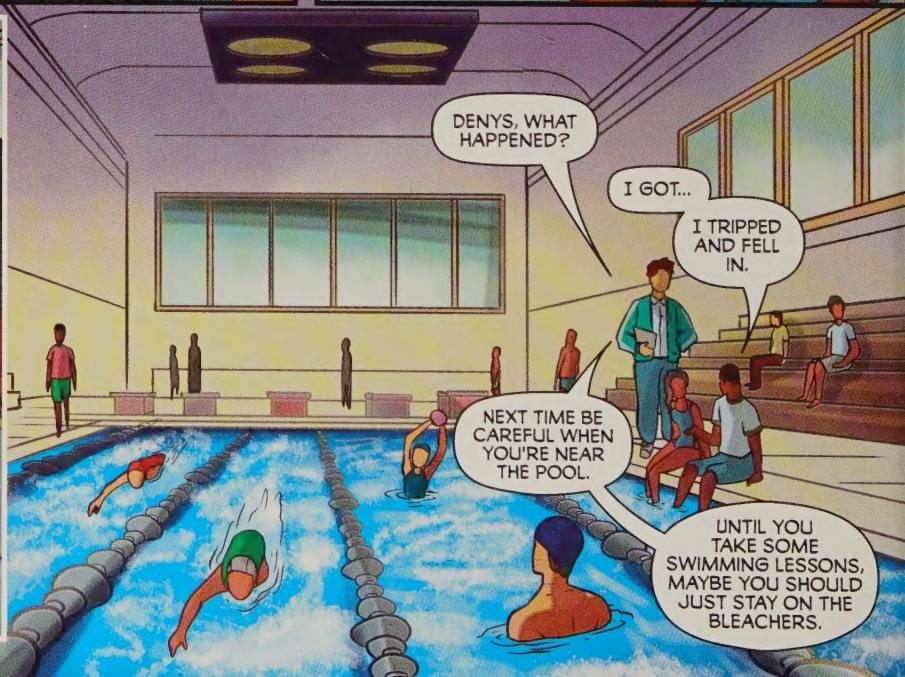
There's no
feeling like
being under
its surface.

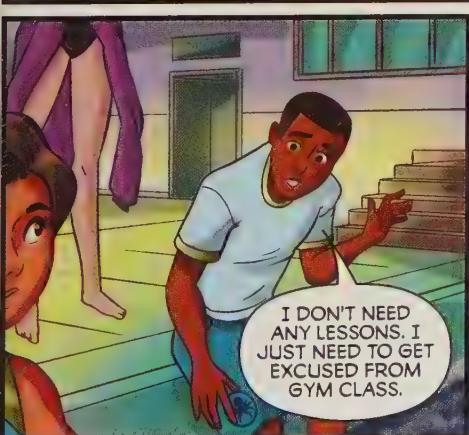
There's only one
thing I love almost
as much...

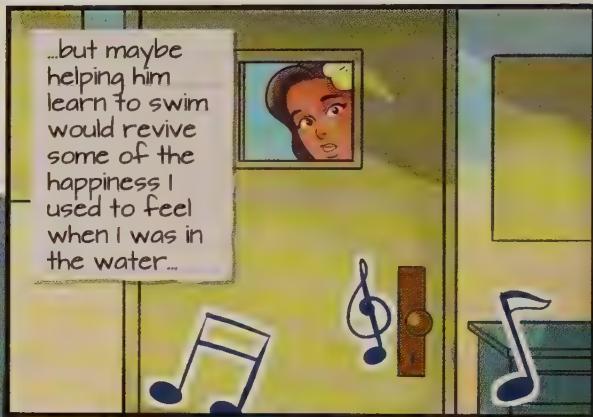
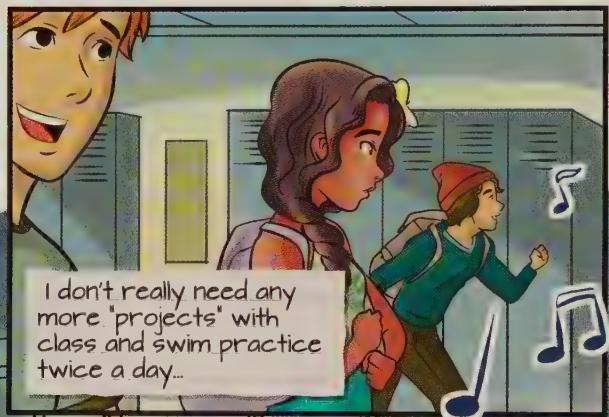
And nobody knows
what that is but me.

The thing about water is that something always breaks the surface...













We had
a deal...

Denys wasn't very graceful to start with and he was never going to compete with the Krakens' Mermen team, but he was learning...



Of course I didn't dare use my voice when Mom lectured me about schoolwork and swim practice...



He taught me how to harmonize and read music charts...



...and helped me gain confidence in my own voice.

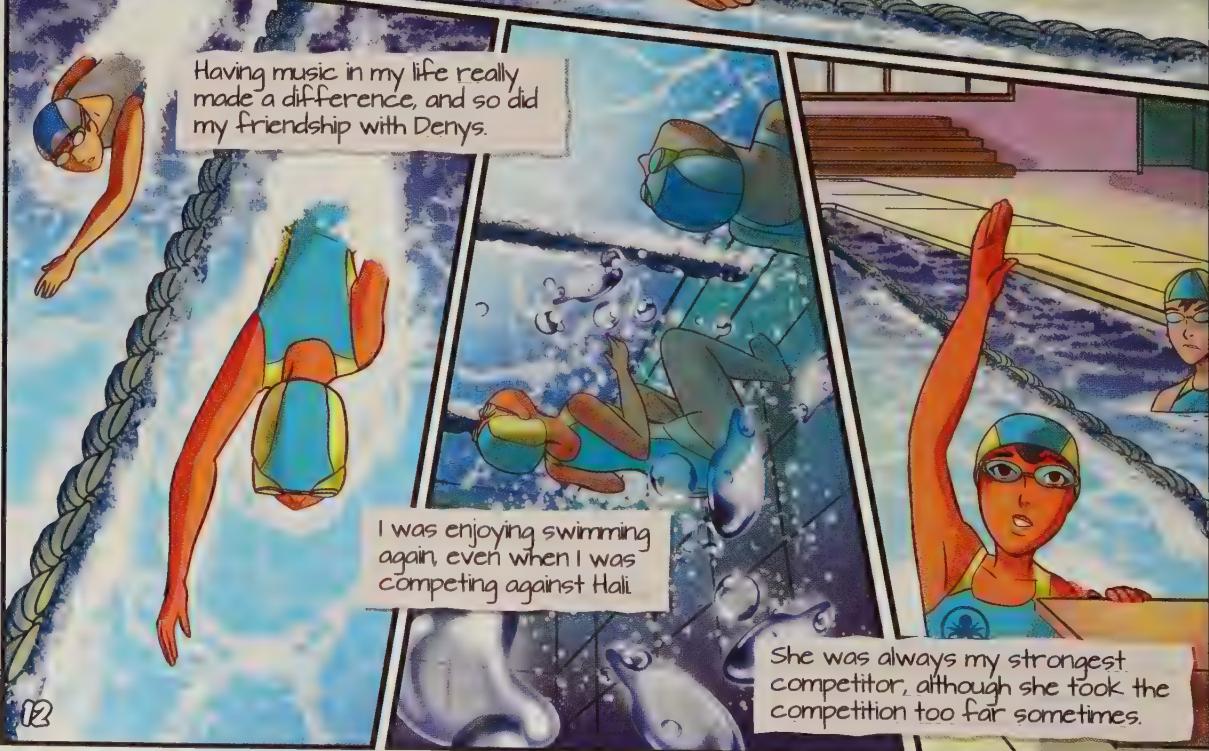


But as long as I worked hard on everything she wanted me to, what Mom didn't know wouldn't hurt her...

A MONTH LATER...



Having music in my life really made a difference, and so did my friendship with Denys.



WAY
TO GO!

YOU GOT
IT!

GOOD JOB,
MARILLA!



MY LITTLE
MERMAID!

DAAAAAAD!
YOU'RE
SMOOSHING
ME!

GO OVER
AND MEET
MY FRIEND,
DENYS.

OH!
A FRIEND?
AND HE'S A
BOY?

YES,
HE'S THE
BOY I'VE BEEN
TEACHING TO
SWIM. I TOLD
YOU ABOUT
HIM. AND HE'S
TEACHING ME
MUSIC.

YOU DON'T
NEED TO ADD MORE
THINGS TO YOUR
SCHEDULE. YOUR
BRAIN AND BODY ARE
OVERBOOKED AS
IT IS.

YOU DON'T
WANT TO LOSE
FOCUS, DO
YOU?







When Hali said that, I knew how important it was...

...so I decided to go public...

... HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DEAR MARILLA, HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

I BROUGHT YOU A CORNER PIECE, TONY. IT'S GOT MORE FROSTING!

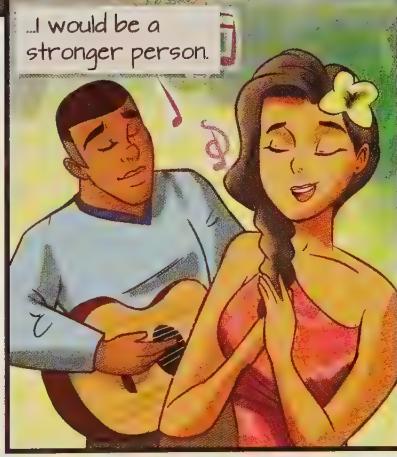
THANKS MARILLA! HAPPY BIRTHDAY AGAIN.

CAN I GET EVERYONE'S ATTENTION?

SINCE IT'S MY BIRTHDAY, I WANT ONE PRESENT FROM EVERYONE HERE...

ARE YOU READY FOR THIS?

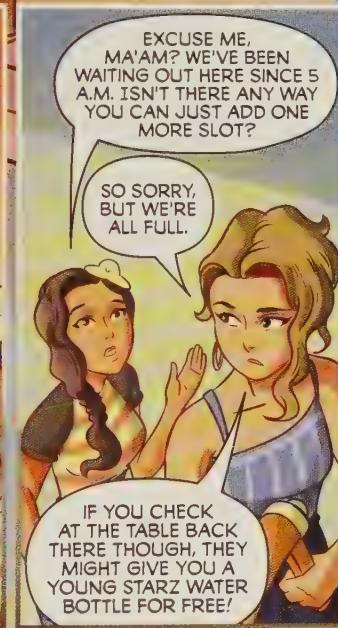
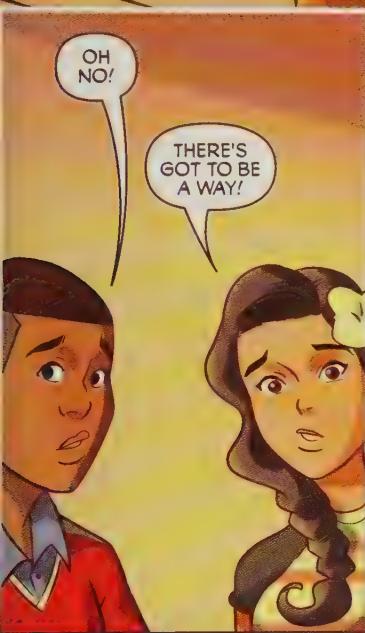
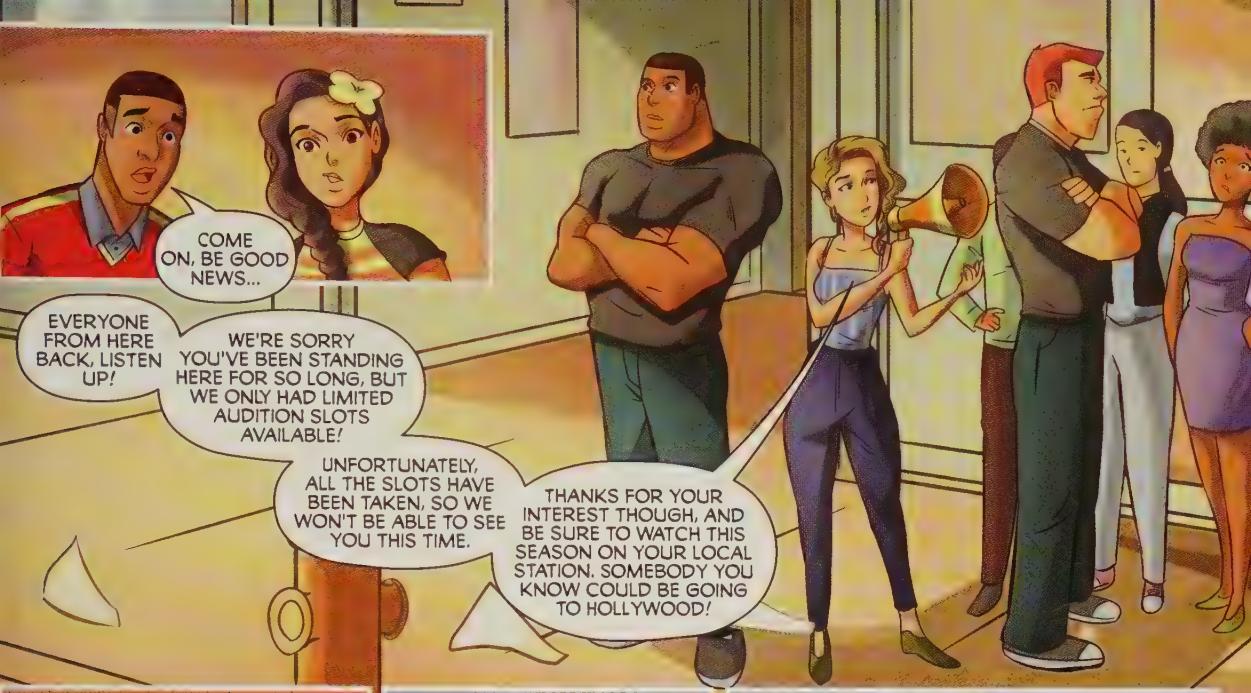
ARE YOU READY?













... AND REMEMBER THAT NO MATTER WHO WINS, EVERYONE HAS TRIED THEIR BEST. THEY'VE BEEN TRAINING JUST LIKE WE HAVE.

BE GRACIOUS, COMPLIMENT THEM, AND SHAKE THEIR HANDS.

THAT SAID, THE MERMAIDS ARE GONNA WIN! GO MERMAIDS!



HEY, HOW ARE YOU FEELING ABOUT TODAY?

YOU MEAN ABOUT YOUR OFFER?

DID I MAKE AN OFFER? I DON'T THINK I DID.

I JUST TOLD YOU THAT I NEED TO WIN TODAY.

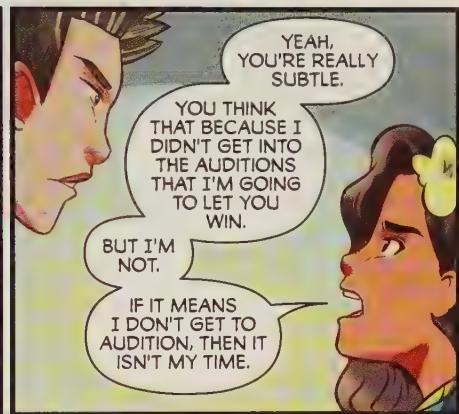
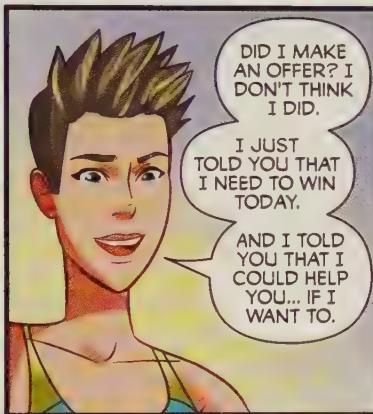
AND I TOLD YOU THAT I COULD HELP YOU... IF I WANT TO.

YEAH, YOU'RE REALLY SUBTLE.

YOU THINK THAT BECAUSE I DIDN'T GET INTO THE AUDITIONS THAT I'M GOING TO LET YOU WIN.

BUT I'M NOT.

IF IT MEANS I DON'T GET TO AUDITION, THEN IT ISN'T MY TIME.



IF YOU WANT TO WIN, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO BEAT ME.

FAIR AND SQUARE.

EARN IT, HALI.



THAT'S THE RIGHT WAY TO GET WHAT YOU WANT.



WELCOME
EVERYONE TO THE
STATE REGIONAL
SWIMMING FINALS!

IT'S GONNA
BE A BUSY
SCHEDULE TODAY
WITH FOUR TEAMS
REPRESENTING!

IN
BLUE AND
GOLD ARE THE
KRAKEN MERMAIDS
AND MERMEN!

IN RED AND
WHITE ARE THE
CYCLONES!

AND IN
ORANGE AND
PURPLE ARE THE
BUCCANEERS!

IT'S SO
NICE OF YOU
TO BE HERE TO
SUPPORT
MARILLA,
DENYS.

I'M SORRY YOU
DIDN'T GET TO DO
YOUR SINGING THING,
BUT FOR MARILLA, THIS
IS REALLY FAR MORE
IMPORTANT.

I can tell that Hali is angry, but I have to be true to myself.

MRS. PAULO, I DON'T MEAN TO TALK BACK TO YOU, BUT THE "SINGING THING" IS IMPORTANT TO MARILLA, TOO.

MAYBE IF YOU SUPPORTED HER IN ALL OF HER GOALS, YOU'D SEE HOW MUCH SHE LOVES IT.

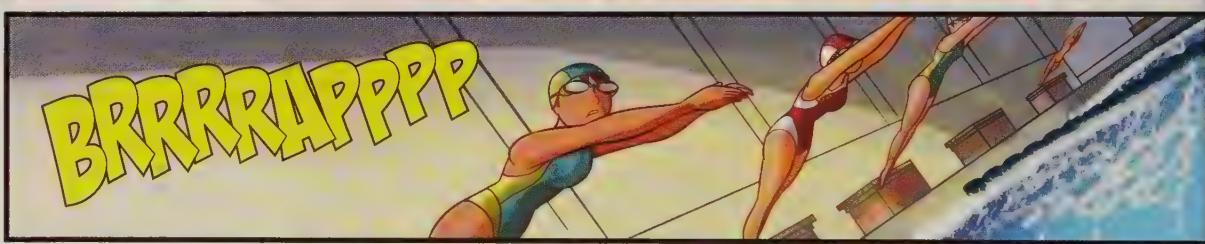
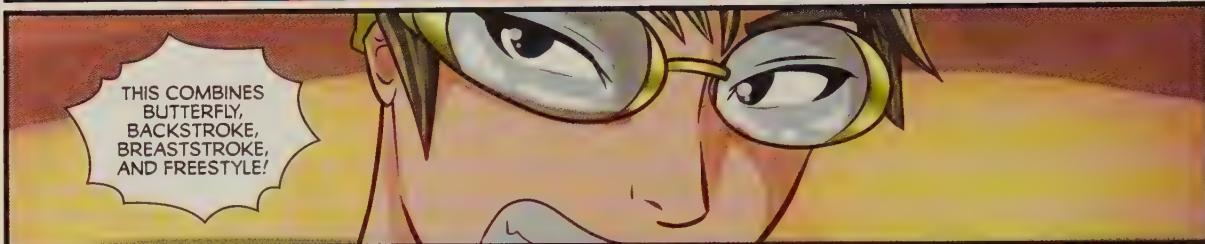
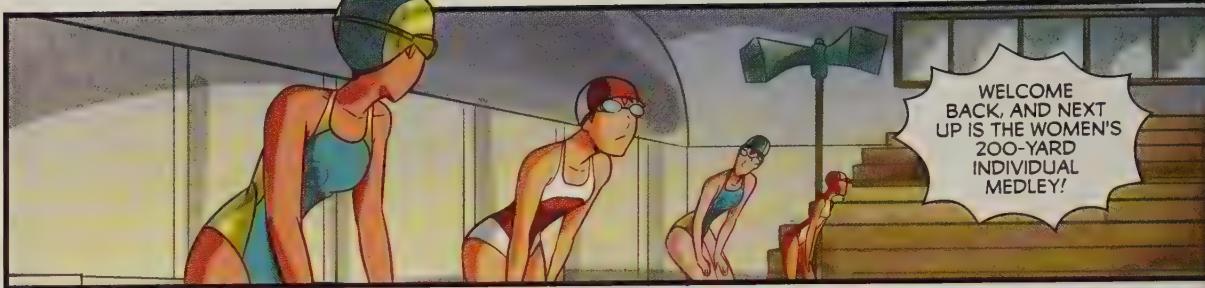
SHE DOESN'T HAVE TO JUST PICK ONE THING TO LOVE.

LANES TWO AND FOUR ARE NECK AND NECK! WHO'S GOING TO CLINCH IT?

AND COMING IN TO THE WALL, LANE TWO WINS!

If I do my best, and Hali does her best, then we've both done our best, no matter who wins.

IT'S MARILLA PAULO, ONE OF THE KRAKEN MERMAIDS!





EVERYBODY
IS STILL IN THE
RACE...

IT LOOKS LIKE
SOME OF THE GIRLS
GOT A BOOST FOR THE
BREASTSTROKE AFTER A
STRONG UNDERWATER
PULL-OUT!

FINAL LAPS
AND NOW
THEY'RE INTO
FREESTYLE.

COMING OUT
OF THE LAST TURN
OF THE INDIVIDUAL
MEDLEY...

LANES TWO
AND FOUR
ARE
NECK AND NECK
AGAIN, WITH SEVEN
JUST BEHIND
THEM!

MARILLA
PAULO WINS
AGAIN, BEATING HALI
MATHER BY A
MICRO-SECOND!





WHAT DO YOU THINK?

WHEN YOU REALLY WANT SOMETHING, AND YOU WORK OR STUDY OR PRACTICE HARD TO GET IT, YOU'RE WORKING TOWARD YOUR GOALS! BUT THERE ARE OFTEN OTHER PEOPLE WHO ARE ALSO WORKING TOWARD THE SAME GOALS. YOU CAN TRY YOUR BEST, BUT IT'S IMPORTANT TO BE FAIR TO OTHERS WHO ARE TRYING THEIR BEST AS WELL. CHEATERS WHO LOOK FOR AN EASY WAY TO WIN RARELY GET WHAT THEY WANT IN THE END. STAYING TRUE TO YOUR GOALS AND WORKING TO ACHIEVE THEM IS THE BEST WAY TO WIN.

- Marilla makes a trade with Denys and shared her talent in exchange for him sharing his. Have you ever made a deal with someone to help you with something and you would help them? Did you feel like that was a business deal, or was it fun to share?
- On the opposite side, Hali makes an offer to Marilla to let her win the swim meet, and Hali will get Marilla the audition she wants. Have you ever had someone offer to do something for you that you want, in exchange for you doing something you didn't want to do? How did you react?
- Marilla's mom wants her to concentrate on school and swimming and doesn't support her goals. But she's not being mean. She just wants Marilla to excel in areas she's good at. Her mom grows by seeing that Marilla can handle several things at once. Are there things you want to do that you wish you had more support to do?
- Denys and Marilla have decided to just be friends, even though their parents think there's a romance between them. Good friendship is important. Do you have friends that are just friends that people think you have a romantic interest in? How do you tell people that you're "just friends" without making them sound like they're not important?
- At her birthday party, Marilla made a choice to sing in front of friends and family, which was brave. What's the bravest thing you've done? Were you still worried after it was over, or were you glad you did it?

NEW STORIES & OLD TALES: FAIRY TALE FUN FACTS

1. Although the term "Fairy Tale" was translated from a French collection by Madame D'Aulnoy in 1697, fairy tales have been around since people could talk and write. They generally include magical beings and often have rivalries between two characters.
2. Hans Christian Anderson's "The Little Mermaid" was first published in 1837 as part of a collection of Danish fairy tales. It is about a young mermaid who gives up her life underwater in order to become human. She visits a Sea Witch who gives her a potion to become human in exchange for her voice. The beloved story has been adapted for opera, ballet, stage plays, musicals, film, television, animation, and toys.
3. There are three statues of the Little Mermaid in Italy and one in the country of Monaco. The most famous statue is on a rock in a harbor of Copenhagen, Denmark.
4. The most famous adaptation of Anderson's "The Little Mermaid" is the 1989 Disney film of the same name. It won two Academy Awards, and was later made into a live Broadway musical. It led to the name Ariel becoming one of the most popular names for little girls for several years.
5. Mermaids have appeared in folk tales and fairy tales since before written language! They are almost always beautiful women, whose lower body is a fish tail. They almost always sing beautifully and were said to lure sailors to shipwreck or other disasters. Some people think mermaids are a type of sea creature called a manatee, but others still believe that mermaids swim the ocean today!



GLOSSARY

AUDITION — To give a trial performance showcasing personal talent as a musician, a singer, a dancer, or an actor.

COMPETITION — A contest between two or more persons or groups.

GOALS — Something that a person works to reach or complete.

HARMONIES — The playing of musical tones together in chords. Also a pleasing arrangement of parts.

INTERNS — An intern is a student or somebody in training gaining guided practice experience in a professional field.

MEDLEY — A varied mixture of people or things.

RECRUIT — To get someone to join a group. A person who recruits people is called a recruiter.

SCOUT — Someone sent to discover new talented athletes or entertainers.

ONLINE RESOURCES



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To learn more about FAIRY TALES, GOALS, and COMPETITION, please visit abdobooklinks.com or scan this QR code. These links are routinely monitored and updated to provide the most current information available.



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THE LITTLE MERMAID'S SONG



This fractured fairy tale weaves the story of Marilla Paulo. After the talented swimmer saves her classmate Denys when he is pushed into a pool, they become friends. She teaches him how to swim, and he encourages her love of singing despite her parents' wishes. But with a big swim meet and singing competition coming up, a jealous teammate offers to help Marilla get an audition slot if she throws their match. Will Marilla sink or swim?



BEAUTY AND THE BARISTA

CINDY RELLA

THE LITTLE MERMAID'S SONG

RAPUNZEL SWINGS

SLEEPING BEAUTÉ

SNOW WHITE AND
THE SEVEN DOGS

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